## MODERN LIVING

# New magazine for career men launched

Men between the ages of twenty and forty will know on 17 August what is meant by "the man's world." A friendly setting for advertisements is how chief editor Horst Vetten desginates his new magazine *M.* Hitherto know under its provisional title *Mr X.* the magazine is intended for men, not "gentlemen," and will be entertaining and informative. It is aimed at the careerist, or at those who consider themselves as such.

The Burda Verlag is launching this new project on the magazine market. The Senator from Offenburg, well-know for his unassuming journals, is thus breaking with a tradition. Sex will be a major theme in the new magazine for men. How could it be otherwise, if the "entire man's world" is to be reflected.

*M.* is looking to the seventies when men will have more leisure time in which the careerist will, to an even greater extent than is now the case, be also a homo ludens. "We do not mean 'playboy' in the Anglo-Saxon sense. We are addressing ourselves to men who are able to fill in their free time in entertaining and constructive ways," says Dr Hubert Burda, the director's son.

In the company's opinion, advertising in the seventies and thereafter must find suitable media to approach certain social groups. The individual *M.* has in mind is financially secure and a good consumer. He is young, dynamic, educated, tolerant and determined to be successful. In short, he is an opinion leader.

Sex is not taboo for the *M.* man. He is interested in photography, dabbles in film-making, loves sport and reads a lot.

High on the scale of his interests are holidays and travel. The *M.* man is very interested in politics, is well informed in the fields of science and technological development and has still not realised his own professional aims.

*M.* intends to beam in on at least 4.3 million of the 8.8 million men aged from twenty to forty. Initial circulation will be 400,000. The magazine will appear monthly, will consist of 134 pages in the first three issues, of which fifty per cent will be be four-tone. Price: two Marks. Distribution will be effected through retail and subscription channels.

Speaking to a group of marketing and advertising experts, Horst Vetten said that the new magazine of the seventies was conceived just at the right time. The world's best photographers, and writers will be invited to contribute to M.'s pages. Hamburg's Professor Giese, for example, will write on sexual problems.

Segmentation of markets requires made-to-measure media. This seems to have been the original insight that inspired what Burda calls his "pure-blood magazine for men," destined to describe the world of man from the male perspective.

Hitherto, the woman has been the main target of the astonishing number of journals now on the market. "Everyone is talking about women, their progress from domestic slave to self-confident emotional partner. This process is big news, while the man is left in the shade. We will bring him out into the light again. The man is in the thick of a hard professional struggle and has little time to plan his leisure constructively. We will help him to do just that," said Dr Burda.

Vetten describes himself thus, "A man of 35, married, two children, a slave of his job, sanguine in temperament, critical of mind. One of many."

Some Sundays he spends in bed, perhaps to confuse his wife. Sometimes he brings her a bouquet of flowers for no reason at all on a Wednesday. Sometimes he spends hours walking through the ...

The men's magazine Vetten has in mind must be "full of high spirits and full of accurate information. It must provide gripping enteraimment and be crystal clear in its factual reporting. It must be fun to read and it must reflect me, my feelings, my desires, my demands."

Perfume for a "life together" is called *Jasmin*. The hours in which the man ... from the intimacies of this life will be spiced by *M.* (perhaps with odour of tobacco).

Significantly, one article in the first issue is titled "The Hour Has Struck for the Man." One excerpt: "The woman who leaves her husband alone once every day is to be envied. She has a happy husband."

(Handelsblatt, 8 May 1969)

# Police read Mao

*West Berlin's police are reading the works of Chairman Mao in preparation for the long hot summer threated by the APO, the Extra-Parliamentary Opposition. A new "Gruppe 47" comprising 47 policemen are studying, among other subjects, the red Mao booklet, better known as the Mao bible.*

*Armed with quotations of the Chinese communist leader, and schooled by political science instructors, the officials will be posted near barriers during demonstrations and will attempt to start a dialogue with APO followers. Police Chief Klaus Hübner thinks that this may discourage demonstrators from throwing stones and convince them that they are dealing with people "whom they can talk to."*

(Handelsblatt, 9 May 1969)




# The German Tribune

Hamburg, 10 June 1969
Eighth Year - No. 374

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE GERMAN PRESS

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# The imperialist kettle calls the pot black

A spate of news consisting largely of frothy headlinese can be expected to accompany the beginning of the international Communist Party summit in Moscow. Since the conference is designed to paper over the disunity of the international communist movement by means of apparent unanimity on joint action against a common enemy, the most frequent term is bound to be "imperialism." Imperialism as an enemy deserves definition and analysis.

What is imperialism and who are the imperialists today? The basic document of the Moscow conference, the draft of which is already available to all concerned, contains remarkably contradictory information. The passages in which it is vociferous, long-winded and pathetic are ill-advised. A number of Communist Parties have already hinted that they are ashamed of the paucity of arguments.

Clichés according to which imperialism "continues to oppress many nations" and pursues a policy of "activating military blocs" in order to sustain its system of oppression and prepare for aggression against the Soviet Union and socialist countries are almost everywhere considered to be old hat nowadays.

Even the modernised formula of imperialism having assumed the character of state monopoly no longer rings true and the conventional appeal "The conscience of Mankind and human understanding can no longer stand the crimes of imperialism" no longer generates much in the way of response.

Even among Communists the suspicion is gaining ground that the big Soviet brother party has shown an increasing tendency to commit a number of conventional imperialist sins against smaller partners. By no means the worst Communist from all over the world will sigh or nod knowingly at each other on reading the eleventh paragraph of the Moscow document.

"Imperialism," the declaration reads, "imposes economic agreements and military pacts on countries with the aim of limiting their sovereignty, it exploits them by means of capital exports, trade imbalance, price and currency manipulation, loans and various forms of so-called 'aid'."

Descriptions of imperialism of this ilk can nowadays only be used to characterise Soviet-style Communism.

Yet, the draft also contains analytical passages based on an entirely different concept of imperialism, one which bears consideration. It consists of quiet, concise asides according to which imperialism comprises everyone who does not actively support the process of social transformation the Communist Parties are aiming at on a world-wide basis under the banner of Marxism-Leninism.

Everyone who is not a supporter of Communism is thus decried as an imperialist in the Moscow document. This at least has the advantage of arranging everything under one heading.

Many accusations levelled at this brand of imperialism, which dares to question communist victory on a world-wide scale, provide valuable confirmation of effective resistance. Basically the Communists are admitting that the imperialists — us, that is — have learnt how to hit back at their cause using entirely peaceful means and to rob their ideology of all persuasive force.

What other interpretation can be made of the warning that imperialism is "resorting to social manoeuvres," "using bourgeois reformism" for its own ends, "undermining" the working-class movement "from within" and trying to integrate it into the capitalist system?

Can imploring pointers that imperialism is sowing dissension and exploiting differences of opinion in the international revolutionary movement be taken to mean anything other than frank fear of the efficacy of imperialist activities of this kind in the ranks of the international communist movement?

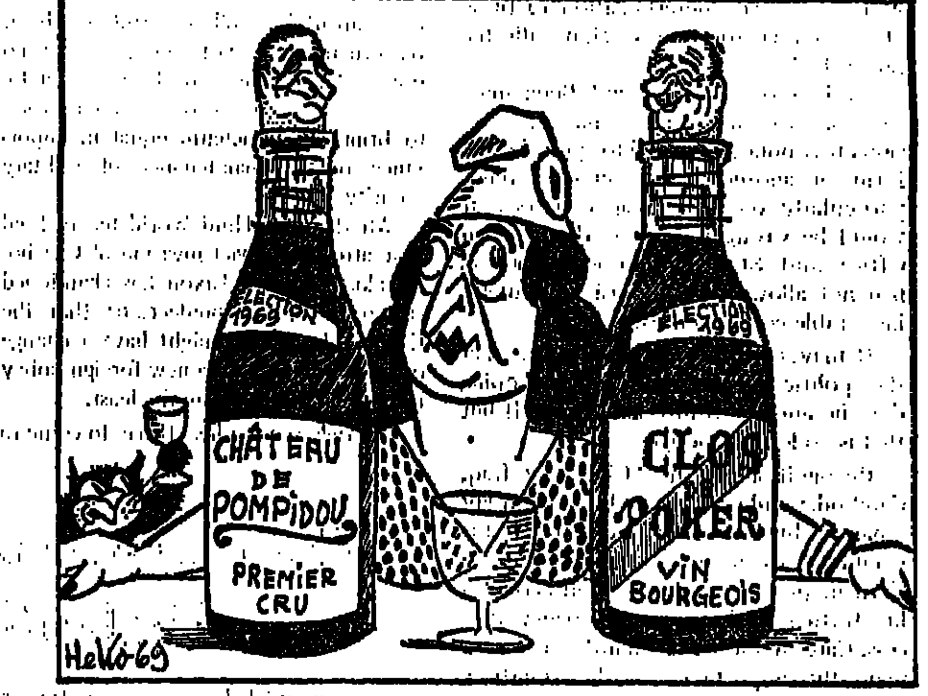
Taken seriously the term imperialism, then, means two things: on the one hand the classic imperialist attitude about which Lenin wrote and in which, insofar as it still exists, the Soviet Union as a nuclear power plays a minor role. The world remembers only too well the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia, its imperialist penetration of the Middle East and the Soviet policy of making others economically dependent in all manner of ways.

In the other sense of the word imperialism is used to describe everyone who is not prepared to submit to revolution on the basis of outmoded Marxist-Leninist concepts and bases his hopes on an increasing number of Communists coming to doubt the eternal truth of these concepts.

If it is imperialistic to work for the realisation of this hope and help to secure for all communities and social orders their sovereign right to independent, progressive and humane development we are only too happy to be imperialists of this kind.

*Ernst-Otto Maetzke*

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 31 May 1969)



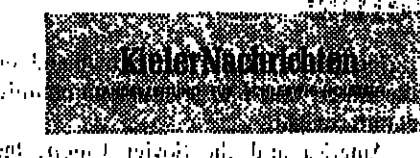

*Same wine, just different labels?*

(Cartoon: Herbert Kolfhaus/Münchner Merkur)

IN THIS ISSUE



# Thieu challenges Nixon's policies



President Thieu of South Vietnam is making use of his present tour of Asian allies to voice his objections to the American compromise plans and President Nixon's eight-point programme.

It has been clear for weeks in both Saigon and Washington that the gravest differences of opinion exist on the future of Vietnam, particularly its political make-up.

In view of the meeting between Presidents Nixon and Thieu on Midway the South Vietnamese head of state's declaration in Seoul that Saigon would not allow itself to be forced into a false peace represent and open challenge to President Nixon.

Lt-Gen Thieu opposes the formation of an interim coalition prior to general elections in South Vietnam. He underlines the core of his demands and misgivings, the legitimacy of the Saigon government, an administration that came into being on the basis of self-determination and in the face of outside pressure and North Vietnamese intervention.

It is believed in Washington that by outside pressure, President Thieu means the Americans, who formed both the government and the form of government in Saigon according to their own wishes and requirements and are now prepared to let it topple because of fresh political needs.

The support lent Thieu by South Korean President Park has both political and economic reasons. South Korea earns a great deal of foreign exchange by means of the Vietnam war and hopes to earn even more via the expected reconstruction programme the Americans are to finance.

Saigon has allowed in 35,000-odd Korean workers as a recompense for the 50,000 Korean soldiers fighting in Vietnam.

*Marlene Manthey*

(Kieler Nachrichten, 31 May 1969)

## FOREIGN AFFAIRS

# Recognition by Iraq, Cambodia and the Sudan challenges Hallstein Doctrine

Three Third World countries have established diplomatic relations with the "German Democratic Republic" in the last fortnight. This fact must not be considered on its own. The trend began with the West's determination to bring about a relaxation of tension with the Soviet Union.

Washington, London and Bonn must have realised in advance what repercussions this policy, pursued for years in one form or another, was bound to have, particularly on Afro-Asian countries. It would be wrong to assume that Foreign Office and State Department planners had not allowed for the risk of virtually inexorable consequences.

It may, of course, well be the case that the politicians decided to let sleeping dogs lie and the future fend for itself but that is no longer enough.

Recognition of the "GDR" by Iraq, Cambodia and now the Sudan is naturally a painful business for this country, but it would be wrong to assume that it is a German problem only. It is all part of a far further-reaching foreign policy process. Care should be taken not to overestimate the importance of this country's role.

For politicians in Cambodia or Iraq, and elsewhere too, intra-German dissension is a highly abstract, hardly comprehensible state of affairs in a distant country. There is no war, no bloodshed, no uprisings and no mercenaries. They are far more concerned about their own internal and external security and their own political and economic development.

All these countries have for years noted with what must almost be called alarm President Johnson's efforts to come to terms with the Soviet Union, Britain's decision to withdraw from the Middle and Far East and General de Gaulle's policy of neutrality in the same parts of the world.

They have noted that the Federal




government has followed suit, partly of its own free will, partly because it has no option but to keep in the swim. Nato, they have seen, has offically rated efforts to bring about detente equal in importance to the maintenance of military security.

Whether the Third World has realised that after the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia President Nixon has abandoned the hope of his predecessor that the Kremlin leadership might have a change of heart and opt for a new foreign policy is more doubtful, to say the least.

All they see are his efforts to come to an understanding on nuclear matters with Moscow in spite of everything. For them the most important factor is that the Americans will sooner or later leave Vietnam and, now more than ever in view of China, are thinking in terms of tacit cooperation with the Soviet Union.

Small wonder that Iran and Turkey have long drawn the appropriate conclusions and also want to thaw out their relations with the Kremlin. Terms are being arranged. This country has no cause to turn up its nose. Third World statesmen, including the Cambodians, have no choice.

What does this mean for Bonn? It could well be that some Afro-Asian Foreign Minister or other is right now toying with the idea of following in Cambodia's footsteps — not because he feels the "GDR" is worth recognising but in order to be able to present something to Moscow that, he reckons, will cost him little or nothing.

And if African or Asian countries fall foul of crypto-communist regimes there will be no stopping them from recognising East Berlin. It is their entry ticket to the Red Club. Entry will be a tragedy for the peoples in question, but not for Bonn. This country should not try to convince itself that the opposite is the case.

It is not, however, merely a matter of small countries of this kind, racked by internal crises. Many others are involved: Arab countries such as Egypt and the Sudan, and above all India and Pakistan.

### Pipe dream

It would be succumbing to an illusion to imagine that they understand the German problems. Complicated, contradictory statements by politicians from this country about almost, three-quarter, half, complete or non-recognition of the "GDR" by the Federal Republic do not make the process any easier.

The situation has been worsened by the Federal government not having promptly and unmistakably reacted to the Iraqi and Cambodian moves, especially the latter. In Asia and Africa only actions or visible reactions of one kind or another are appreciated.

None have yet been forthcoming. An election campaign is no excuse for procrastination.

All that remains is to point out to Third World countries that they owe their existence to self-determination. Living independently of the power blocs in a peaceful world they must bear in mind that the balance of their own policies is at stake.

It is by no means out of the question that by recognising the "GDR", an act that appears to them to be so unimportant, they may lose just this balance.

*Georg Schröder*

(DIE WELT, 29 May 1969)

# China agrees to negotiate with big brother Russia

Moscow and Peking are competing as peacemakers. The Chinese have countered the Soviet Union's rather vague offer of negotiations after the Ussuri and Kazakhstan border incidents with a far more specific offer. Peking's retort has definitely not been dictated by fear — fear of Soviet encirclement, for instance.

Fear of encirclement by the Soviet Union cannot be the motive even though Moscow can boast extremely good relations with India and it will not have been mere coincidence that President Podgorny has recently paid visits to North Korea, which is reported also to have had border trouble with China, and the People's Republic of Mongolia.

The eleven-page declaration by the government of Communist China is loa-




ded with political pitfalls and may prove something of an embarrassment to the men in the Kremlines concluded in the nineteenth century between Tsarist Russia and Imperial China but at the same time they brand the Soviet Union as the legitimate heirs of the Tsars and Tsarist annexation policies, as a result of which, as the Red Chinese declaration notes, China was robbed of more than 580,000 square miles of territory. The comrades in Moscow are pilloried as unscrupulous beneficiaries of imperialism.

The timing of the Chinese offer is particularly embarrassing. At this very moment vain efforts are being made at the meeting called to prepare for the international communist conference to build a bridge between the mutually contradictory concepts of proletarian internationalism and national sovereignty.

Mistrust of the Soviet Union's claim to ideological and political leadership is growing steadily more apparent and the Chinese are now contesting the Kremlin's claim to supremacy, morally at least, in what has so far been its own uncontested sphere of influence.

The Kremlin will have a hard time playing the leading role in the communist world in the struggle against imperialism if proof is provided that it itself is only too glad to enjoy the benefits of imperialist campaigns of conquest.

The generosity of the Chinese offer will make it difficult for the Soviet Union to refuse, yet if it agrees to negotiations with Peking it will commit itself to a highly dangerous, close-range encounter. Soviet attempts to find a common denominator for great power policies and communist ideals will grow increasingly transparent and more dubious.

*Cyrill von Radzibor*

(Kieler Nachrichten, 28 May 1969)

# New faces at disarmament conference

Now that the Geneva disarmament conference has gone into a six-week recess the most tangible result of six weeks of negotiations is the admission of two new members. In theory there are now twenty members, in practice only nineteen, since France is not represented.

This state of affairs may well change, under either M. Pompidou or M. Poher. Both men want to end the empty chair policy as they feel this kind of political continence to be neither good nor effective.

The attempt to gain admittance to the Geneva negotiations for this country came to grief on the Soviet Union's insistence on parity. If Bonn is to be represented, then so must East Berlin.

Instead of the two Germanies a motley couple of countries have gained admission: Japan and the Mongolian People's Republic. The advantage of having gained these two new members is felt, on the one hand, to be that Japan is both a victim of the A-bomb and a threshold power capable of building and manufacturing nuclear weapons of its own and, on the other, that Mongolia is a communist counterweight.

America and the Soviet Union, the two co-presidents of the disarmament conference, have synchronised the admittance of the two much as they show unanimity in other respects at the conference. It makes little difference that they have submitted varying drafts of a treaty to ban militarisation of the seabed.

The seabed provided a new toy for the conference to play with. It has no immediate bearing on disarmament but there is a feeling that other agreements might be reached via the seabed.

In return the superpowers expect Japan to sign the non-proliferation treaty without delay, but Japan can be expected to press for the superpowers themselves to disarm, as Rumania officially agreed to do shortly before the recess. America and the Soviet Union are duty bound to disarm. They alone can do the name of the conference justice.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 28 May 1969)



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## POLITICS

# First procedural reforms proposed for Bundestag sessions

Just in the nick of time, with elections around the corner, young Bundestag members have scored a victory over the "Establishment" in their parliamentary parties. Their demands for better working methods in the Bundestag are being acknowledged by older politicians who have opposed such reforms in the past.

Opportunity knocked when former Bundestag President Eugen Gerstenmaier was forced to resign. His successor, Kai-Uwe von Hassel, gave his personal approval to the proposed reforms, enhancing his prestige and increasing his chances of being re-elected by a new Bundestag, depending on who gains the majority.

The recommendations to be presented next week to the procedural committee of the Bundestag, later to be discussed at a plenary session, are not, however, sensational. The reform commission, comprising members of all three parliamentary groups and several Bundestag administrative officials, did not reach for the stars. They concentrated on what can be done before the Bundestag elections next September. The principal proposals are:

1. Each week, matters coming up for debate are to be classified according to "fields." The Bundestag is to give its undivided attention to social affairs, for example, without discussing foreign policy in between. Or, if budget or financial question are involved, the Bundestag is to devote itself entirely to these until some decision has been taken. Two days are to be set aside for such debates — Wednesday and Thursday. Friday is to be set aside for current affairs and especially urgent legislation.

2. Bundestag committees are to go ahead and discuss questions in their respective fields, independent of recommendations made to them in a full session of the Bundestag.

3. Debates on Bills are not to split into three readings but are to take place during the second reading.

4. If lobbyists wish to remain on Bundestag committees they must be registered in a list that is made public. Besides their names and the headquarters of their associations details must be given of their executive bodies and membership of their




associations. Details of the financing of the associations must also be given.

The amount of time allowed per speech will be shortened. Political questions of local interest are to be answered in writing and not orally. Thus question time will be more political. A new executive body will be formed out of the previous executive and the Council of Elders of the Bundestag.

At first glance the reforms proposed seem purely technical. On closer consideration, however, they seem designed to maintain the Bundestag's role as a legislative body, to uphold its supervisory powers over government and bureaucracy and to strengthen its position vis à vis pressure groups.

Kai-Uwe von Hassel recently pointed out that for two years the Federal government has been planning its expenditure policy and thus its entire activities on a long-term basis. As a rule the individual Bundestag member does not know at the weekend what will be on the parliamentary agenda, not to mention the fact that he can hardly keep track of the deluge of bills being laid before the Bundestag all the time.

The "special fields" debate is to remove these two evils. Broadly speaking the reform commission has in mind five spheres which could be classed as follows:

1. Foreign Affairs, Defence, All-German Affairs, and Foreign Aid.
2. Home Affairs, the Judiciary, Science and Education, Youth Affairs and Local Affairs.
3. Financial Affairs and the Budget.
4. Economic Affairs, Agriculture, Transport and Posts and Telecommunications.
5. Welfare, Labour, Family Affairs, Expellees and Health.

Such classification would improve coordination of parliamentary activities. The government would have points of reference not only in detail but in a general context. This would be an advantage not only for the Bundestag but for the public as well.

Bundestag members are to receive special briefing before such specialised debates. A general survey of the discussion will be issued as well as expositions which explain the issues involved to non-specialists.

If the committees are empowered in future to decide themselves what aspects of their special field they wish to concentrate upon this would strengthen their controlling functions. For example with relation to budgetary plans of their ministries. If, moreover, a check could be kept the course of special debates and if a long-term schedule could be established, Bundestag members would be in a position to fight better parliamentary battles than they have done in the past. It is important that classification into large special fields can be used as a lever for subsequent more decisive reforms entailing fewer committees (twenty-three exist at the present) but including more members of the Bundestag.

This would go a long way towards removing an old parliamentary evil, the inner lobby. Lobbyists dressed up to seem like politicians who now dominate many committees would be neutralised. In larger committees with more extensive special fields this inner lobby would cease to be an entity. More so than hitherto it would be forced to represent its interests towards Bundestag members who have their own interests. This is the essence of the reform programme, although this programme will not bring about any decisive change its fate will decide whether the Bundestag, contrary to previous experience and expectations, has the strength to reform itself.

*Carl Christian Kaiser*

(DIE ZEIT, 30 May 1969)

# Wehner analyses various aspects of the German Question

Herbert Wehner, Minister of All-German Affairs and deputy chairman of the Social Democratic Party (SPD) has made an analysis of the German Question, comparing the policies of three Federal Chancellors, Konrad Adenauer, Ludwig Erhard and Kurt Georg Kiesinger. The Minister outlined the SPD's position over the German Question and came to the conclusion that there is no miracle solution to this tangled issue. There is no reason to be ashamed of this.

Herr Wehner began his analysis by examining the view that the answers to the question: recognition or non-recognition of the German Democratic Republic is the main issue and whether opinions are divided in this matter into groups favouring recognition and others rejecting it.

Reviewing in detail the arguments of both sides the conclusion is reached that the pro-recognition group, as such, is as nebulous a concept as an anti-recognition group was because the motives in both cases are very dissimilar. Events abroad and at home are inclined to swing the pendulum from one direction into the other. Most open to criticism are those who profess clear, that is ideologically-based, views on the course of world events.

They are totally occupied with the task of asserting the validity of their view of the world and being thus occupied rarely come around to improving the conditions of the world.

Konrad Adenauer, who was critised by many for having allegedly opposed the re-unification of Germany allowed Fritz Schäffer to undertake a fact-finding visit to East Berlin. Many times Adenauer was

STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG

quoted as saying that people in this country are willing to discuss many things if certain conditions benefiting people in the other part of Germany were changed. "But the secret he had in mind he took with him to the grave."

Adenauer's successor, Ludwig Erhard, considering the level on which this country would be approached, was obviously concerned with economic and financial opportunities. He also believed that strict adherence to the non-recognition view would undermine the resilience on the other side after a period and force the Soviet Union to make concessions.

The third Federal Chancellor, Kurt Georg Kiesinger, took a more subtle approach. Intimations of the new policy were found in his Coalition government policy statement. These concerned relations with the Soviet Union and also with other Communist-controlled East Bloc nations as well as the other part of Germany governed by the Socialist Unity Party(SED).

Certain conclusions were reached in an exchange of letters with the chairman of the Ministerial Council of the Soviet Zone, Willi Stoph and in Federal government offers to hold talks in April 1967. Some ground was also broken in the inter-German trade agreement of December 1968.

Following determined endeavours by Foreign Minister Willy Brandt within Nato towards the Soviet Union and other governments further elements evolved which must now be coordinated, activated and for the most part supplemented.

At its last extraordinary part conference the SPD made what is the most liberal offer that could have been made up until now. It announced as part of its programme that the "Federal government would be prepared to open talks at government level without discrimination. These talks should lead to form the cooperation that would be in the interests of both sides."

SED boss Walter Ulbricht cannot afford to ignore this realistic suggestion if in the spirit of the Budapest Declaration of the Warsaw Pact nations, he is, in fact, of the opinion that normalisation of relations between the Soviet Zone and the Federal Republic is inter-related with European security.

### Summing up

Summing up Herbert Wehner emphatically declared that the SPD is anxious to cultivate relations between both parts of Germany and vis-à-vis the world at large in such a manner that this could be evaluated as a constructive contribution by Germans to the preparation of a new European peace settlement.

Herr Wehner warned, however, against short-sighted election campaigning which would merely touch up the government's declaration of 1966 with "interpretations". Ulbricht would sieze upon such interpretations with gusto for these would fall as easily into his cupped hands as views from the other flank demanding recognition of his regime in the sense of "coming to terms with realities".

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 28 May 1969)

# People still keep in touch despite the Wall

Twenty years after the division of Germany and almost eight years after the ecrection of the Berlin Wall every third person in an opinion survey poll claimed to have friends or relatives in the Soviet Zone.

The poll showed that 26 per cent still sent gift parcels to the other half of Germany. Thirteen per cent said that they still exchanged letters with friends and relatives in the Soviet Zone, while 31 per cent said that they occasionally correspond with people in the other part of Germany.

This survey was carried out by the Emnid Institute and the questions were the same as those asked in a similar survey last year. (DIE WELT, 28 May 1969)

## HOME AFFAIRS

# The case of the Hannsheinz Porst

### A MINI-ESPIONAGE AFFAIR THAT QUESTIONS LOYALTY

This is not a fascinating case. It is now realised. Hannsheinz Porst, charged with treason, is obviously neither a traitor nor an ideologist of exceptional stature. The proceedings in Karlsruhe give the impression that the whole thing will end in a farce.

Officials in East Berlin's secret service probably had a great laugh at the tributes paid to this "Marxist" millionaire from Nuremberg — before getting down to more serious business. If these officials had seriously expected to gain anything by this "trial," they are apt to be disappointed, for they too are tinged by the absurdity of the affair.

Whatever other persons and groups are involved, nothing can really be listed cleanly under treason or conviction. Nothing remotely deserves identification with the nobility of "I believe" or "Here I stand."

The parvenus decorate the scene, the clever New Rich, the alert gossips, the big and small admirers of the man with the jovial manner who has made millions. By all accounts, the Public Prosecutor too at the end of the proceedings will have trouble recapitulating with anything approaching dignity.

Nevertheless, the case is significant. Hannsheinz Porst is not comparable with, sea, Klaus Fuchs or the Rosenbergs. Nor is he comparable with political apostates such as Koestler or Kravchenko.

Süddeutsche Zeitung

The categories of great political apostasy hardly apply to Porst. Still, the affair is in many ways typical of the German scene.

Political craving for admiration, romantic ardour and a missionary zeal to improve the world are very widespread in this country. The affair is significant too because of the desperate search for grounds on which to make a stand, on which the political confrontation between friend and adversary is possible.

All that is really apparent is a void that is not malicious or ironic but well-meaning and naive.

Thus seen, Porst is a text-book German, committed to the improvement of the world, lacking precise political guidelines, subject to vague dreams. Betrayal can spring from the need for romantic zeal.

Be loyal to whom? This too is very German. It was infused in equal measure into Liberalism and Communism, but it did not spring form indifference.

It is not enough to attribute such contradictions to the weakness for blurred logic. It is part of the German tradition that there is always a Higher Element which resolves contradictions and justifies them. This third element is Germany, Nation, People, Indivisibility. It is also the attitude "beyond all parties." to serve national unity.

Those who wandered between the fronts and worlds of difference with this vocabulary were always in the right. The youth movement subscribed to this "politics from higher regions" as eagerly as the Reichswehr leadership, the aristocrats and *the national Bolshevists.*

Many were the echoes of this at the German *Stammtisch* the table for the regulars in the local pub, at least among the so-called intellectuals. When Germany was at stake party programmes were set aside.

This attitude belongs to an old, fatal and still not quite surmounted world. The heirs to this world, however, now seem rather anaemic, in the East and in the West.

For, "Germany" is no longer a subject of primary, higher loyalty. It would be nearer the truth to say that this country enjoys its status and dignity to the extent that it grants an increasing number of its citizens a greater measure of freedom and justice.

This is the substance of the first Articles of Basic Law, and it is the import of all major documents in the tradition of freedom. Unity does not come before freedom, the contrary is true.

It is one of the basic evils of German intellectual history that whole generations of popular educationalists preached that beyond the boundaries of freedom and justice there is a political *duty* that is related to higher things. This has spawned great numbers of people who wander between worlds and clouds.

There was a time when political dreamers caused great havoc. They invariably tossed aside the concepts and insights of this world, placing themselves in a position to mobilise the public in the service of a seemingly great idea, and great deeds.

A residue from these times, dull rather than fascinating, has again come to light in the Karlsruhe proceedings. It cannot affect the sober loyalty of the citizens of *this* republic. *Hans Heigert*

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 27 May 1969)

# The not so secret Secret Service

Few remember why exactly a commission was set up six months ago to examine the working methods of the country's secret services. The commission has now presented its report.

An inquiry was demanded when Admiral Lüdke was killed in a mysterious hunting accident and the deputy head of the Intelligence Service, General Wendland, took his life.

Then a Lieutenant Grimm in the Ministry of Defence committed suicide, a secretary in operations staff was arrested and, to crown all, a Sidewinder rocket that had been missing for some months was found to have been stolen in a way that was both adventurous and ludicrously simple, the rocket then being sent by air-freight to Moscow.

A tie-in with an espionage ring was suspected, was indeed obvious, and criticism was naturally keen. An inquiry was inevitable too because a number of slip-ups had occurred in the Lüdke affair.

Three secret services are working parallel to each other in the Federal Republic. The Office for the Protection of the Constitution keeps a check on threats and attempts to overhrow the constitutional system of the Federal Republic. The Federal Intelligence Service files all kinds of political, economic, technical and military information from abroad. Military counter-intelligence combats hostile espionage and counteracts attempts to undermine the morale of the Bundeswehr.

It is natural to ask if these three institutions are really necessary, and if so, if they could not be amalgamated under a joint executive.

The Commission was well-advised to resist the temptation to make this recommendation. The past has shown that in all major countries the intelligence services work better on their own, provided that the limits of their competence are clearly drawn and that they work in a good spirit of cooperation.

An efficient counter-espionage service and a functional constitutional defence organisation are especially important for the Federal Republic because it is a hotbed of Eastern espionage activities. Some 12,000 agents are said to be active in this country.

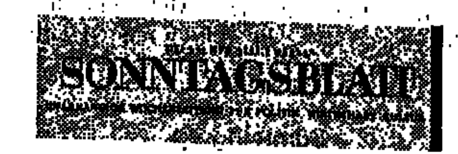
The best secret services are those that remain secret. They are only in the news when something goes wrong. Their achievements cannot be publicised.

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 23 May 1969)

# Grand Coalition tightrope walkers totter in currency crisis

By all the rules of the game the Grand Coalition should have collapsed in the head-on collision over the currency issue. The Free Democrats would certainly have walked out under these circumstances, if they had been in coalition with the Christian Democratic Union.

The Social Democrats decided otherwise. They agreed to back Chancellor Kurt Georg Kiesinger and his Minister of Finance, Franz-Josef Strauss, in taking alternative measures to curb the dreaded rise in prices. They reasoned, sensibly enough, that a withdrawal from the government at this juncture would be hard-



ly compatible with joining the government under similar critical circumstances, and would certainly not be understood by the mass.

The Social Democrats reluctantly agreed therefore to the concessions their Minister of Economic Affairs, Karl Schiller, was obliged to make to his colleague, Herr Strauss. Minister of Foreign Affairs Willy Brandt is determined to carry on the government's joint policy until the elections, even if the SPD must do so on its own.

Herr Brandt also said that he intends to speak with the Chancellor about the possibility of continuing their joint efforts. What could be more conciliatory?

Herbert Wehner, the Minister of All-German Affairs finds working with the CDU sometimes unbearable, but he is in favour of remaining in one boat for the time being.

The captain, Kurt Kiesinger, has warned the passengers that he is not prepared to head a crumbling coalition. The question is: can the Grand Coalition continue to function?

For some months to come politics in Bonn will probably be pursued on two levels. The parliamentary groups will continue to work together as well as they can under the circumstances. They will try and cooperate even when their leaders make life difficult with slogans of one kind or another.

Parliamentary leaders Rainer Barzel and Helmut Schmidt at any rate have agreed to ignore as fas as possible the rumbles from without.

From this viewpont the Bundestag currency debate was something of an exception because prestige questions were at stake and passions were aroused. What the pre-election skirmishes really endanger are the controversial Bills in respect of which both sides must make compromises, if ever they are to be approved. Such controversial legislation concerns payment for sick workers, the statue of limitations on murder and the town-planning promotion Bill brought in by Social Democrat Lauritz Lauritzen, the Minister of Housing in the Grand Coalition.

Despite all the declarations of good will in the parliamentary groups therefore the legislative wheels are already in danger of grinding to a standstill.

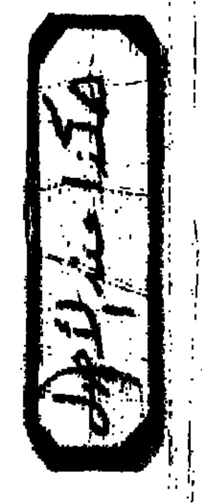
In the weeks ahead, Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor will confine themselves to wrapping up what they have begun together. For the rest, they will apply themselves to daily events outside the immediate sphere of this country's policy and thus not impinging on the Bundestag elections next September.

Last spring, the Coalition parties were still saying that they intended to present their accomplishments jointly to the electorate. If now Schiller and Strauss start blaming each other for encouraging speculation and increasing the hazard of creeping inflation; if they argue over who is responsible for the slow-down in domestic activity, the Concerted Action and all it entailed may be a thing of the past before the next elections.

Friction between the parties is to be avoided at all cost. The politicians are already thinking of possible coalitions in the future.

Can the SPD accept the CDU's offer of a truce without making its own demands? *Dieter von König*

(DEUTSCHES ALLGEMEINES SONNTAGSBLATT, 25 May 1969)





## LABOUR RELATIONS

# Trade unions consider long overdue reforms

### DGB CONFERENCE TAKES PLACE IN MUNICH

Delegates to the Munich conference of the Federal Republic Trade Union Confederation (DGB) decided to give serious consideration to what are basically long overdue organisational reforms.

This may seem a matter of course but the temptation to celebrate the event as something out of the ordinary still remains. Even the delegates who pushed the measure through went home surprised.

When negotations began in Munich they had not expected to be successful againstwhat has in the past been the supremacy of the conservatives, who would prefer to postpone yet again any measures of effective reform.

Not until the last moment, after first-rate speeches and adept tactical manoevres, was the decision made to hold a constitutional congress in 1971. This means that discussion of reforms now has

Frankfurter Allgemeine ZEITUNG FÜR DEUTSCHLAND

a deadline. By 1971 a commission must submit specific proposals.

Are reforms necessary, fundamental reforms that must necessarily be backed by a consistent intellectual and social concept?

Trade unions in this country, destroyed by the Nazis, were re-formed after the war in a modern structure. There are no religious, or political divisions. The unions are unitary industrial unions independent of political parties. The principle of industrial unions means that in any one factory only one union is represented.

Yet in other countries divided unions often head the economy to the brink of disaster with cynical unscrupulousness. Is not too much fuss made, one may well ask, of the need for changes in DGB structure?

This question goes only skin-deep. Precisely because twenty years ago trade unions in this country made an attempt to orientate themselves towards new principles, because with the course of time they have increasingly abandoned the principle of class struggle and made clear their desire for integration in state and society and because they have thus already trodden virgin territory for a working-class movement they have necessarily submitted themselves to a process of change they must continue if they are to retain credibility.

Were they only a band of class strugglers or the mechanics of a wage increase machine they would not of course need anything new, neither in the realm of ideas nor in that of organisation.

The Munich congress has once again made clear the internal division in the trade union movement. Many an honest union official would like to retain an element of class struggle, a piece of resistance movement of working men, as one delegate put it.

People like this fail to realise that you cannot have your cake and eat it. A trade union cannot represent resistance to a state in which it would like to play a leading role as a balancing factor.

No less a man than Otto Brenner, always considered to be a left-wing activist, defended both Economic Affairs Minister Karl Schiller's policy of concerted action (regular consultations between employers, unions and Ministry officials) and the Bonn Grand Coalition of Christian and Social Democrats against numerous attacks in terms that showed he has given profound consideration to the situation.

Herr Brenner of IG Metall, the metal-workers' union, who in the past has so often fulminated against the state, clearly assigns the role of a balancing factor to trade unions today.

Yet Otto Brenner in Munich seemed to personify the wretched state the trade unions are in. Brenner, who in contrast to past behaviour is now a decided opponent of attacks on established institutions, is one of the chief opponents of a thorough reform of the trade unions, a series of measures designed to enable them to make full use of their role as a balancing factor.

Brenner voted against holding a constitutional congress, suffering his first clear defeat at a trade union congress in the process. This defeat was due in part to the internal contradiction outlined.

There is a deep rift between trade unions in this country. Of this there has, since Munich, been no doubt. It is to their credit that despite their protestations of solidarity they are not trying to cover up the dissension.

The former president of the Confederation of Trade Unions, Ludwig Rosenberg (right), congratulates his successor Heinz Vetter at the Confederation's Munich conference (Photo:dpa)

Differences of opinion were apparent on more than the question of reform. The unusual number of votes cast against Heinz Oskar Vetter, newly-elected DGB chairman, are a sign of oppostion and dissatisfaction clearly voiced by many delegates. The tug of war over the position was also evidence of inadequacies within this great organisation.

The post of chairman combines the reform malaise and calamitous personnel decisions. According to the present constitution, the chairman implements and represents. He would need to be an outstanding man to accomplish more.

The constitution must be changed to give him more leeway, since there is no prospect of another Hans Böckler, a man who, having once founded the industrial unions, might go on to the task of reforming them.

There are no signs of a man of analysis, a man who might for once think his way through the whole gamut of trade union problems and put the wind up frequent complacency.

The new chairman can be expected first to bring greater, more uncompromising pressure to bear on the subject of workers' participation. A number of terms he used at the end of the conference leave reason to suspect that on the whole he is a man of conservative ideas rather than new formulas.

*Ernst Günter Vetter*

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 27 May 1969)

# Union delegates loathe to discuss seriously internal reform

In a peaceful and objective atmosphere the Munich congress of the Federal Republic Trade Union Confederation (DGB) has come to a close. The sensations expected in many quarters failed to materialise because a majority of delegates were not prepared to engage in serious argument over internal reforms.

The problem of DGB structure has thus been postponed, not eliminated. Not until the 1971 constitutional congress will it be apparent to what extent the conservatives among the sixteen industrial unions, first and foremost IG Metall, the metalworkers' union, are prepared to take organisation reform seriously.

The DGB enters its third decade with much younger men at the top and, apart from the reform controversy, with an astonishing degree of unanimity.

The fighting words that were still to be heard in no small measure at the last congress in West Berlin have given way to a more pragmatic, considered outlook, due no doubt to the fact that everyone at Munich must have realised just how much the unions are integrated into society and how seriously they are taken by all and sundry.

The role of an outsider who has to fight to gain acceptance for his demands is old hat. So are the much-vaunted extremist views of many trade union officials.

The Social Democrats (SPD) must be delighted with the outcome of the DGB congress. Their role in the Bonn Grand Coalition with the Christian Democrats came in for little criticism and was often inordinately praised. Small wonder. SPD and DGB demands are basically the same.

Here and there trade union aims may go beyond those of the Social Democrats but this is mainly because the DGB does not need to gain acceptance for its demands in the Bundestag and consequently is in a position to use more forceful language.

The Christian Democratic and Christian Social Unions (CDU/CSU) still come off badly in the trade union movement. The belief that the CDU/CSU is against the interests of the working class from the word go appears to be indestructible.

Labour Minister Hans Katzer's efforts in the field of social policy are alone among Christian Democratic policies in gaining approval but Herr Katzer and the left wing of the CDU are not expected to gain majority support in their party and on the quiet Hans Katzer is counted as a Social Democrat.

The main emphasis in trade union demands has changed. Wages have moved into a back seat position. Workers' participation and the formation of wealth and assets among trade union members are the topical subjects now.

At the Munich congress the DGB extended its workers' participation demands to include all sectors of the economy and not only this country but Europe as a whole. Confident declarations that these demands will soon be put through parliament should not mislead, however. This is to a large extent merely a show of optimism.

The trade unions know well how difficult it will be to gain Bundestag approval of even the far less extensive SPD proposals on workers' participation in management. The formation of assets is a more promising topic, since management appears willing to discuss the matter.

The net result of the Munich "Parliament of Labour" (the DGB slogan) ought to satisfy the trade union movement. Over the twenty years it has been in existance the DGB has achieved a great deal for the working class and its prospects of negotiating further benefits within the framework of Economic Affairs Minister Karl Schiller's programme of concerted action (regular consultations between employers, unions and Ministry officials) are far from poor.

It may prove more difficult to convince wage- and salary-earners and civil servants that the trade unions serve their interests best. Yet only by doing this will the DGB succeed in making good the decline in membership it has sustained in recent years. *Rainer Klose*

(Münchner Merkur, 24 May 1969)

## MUSIC

# Klebe uses symbolic Goethe tale for opera libretto




It was like a fairy-tale both inside and outside the castle. The horse-chestnuts and apple trees were in blossom; lilacs and pansies provided a rich array of colours; the paths in the castle grounds were *neatly raked; and the sun put in an* appearance — the path towards Art led through the luxuriant stage of Nature and, in turn, Art reflected Nature on the stage.

Will-o'-the-wisp glinted in the sunlight; a snake wound its way towards the river bank; the lily sadly hung its head; a hawk swooped down and canaries took flight; a pug-dog jumped around; the earth glistened; the entrance to an underground temple opened; a giant turned into a stone monument and dead creatures came to life again — these are scenes from Giselher Klebe's new opera *Das Märchen von der schönen Lilie* (The tale of the beautiful lily).

Klebe has already used Shakespeare and Schiller, Kleist and Balzac, Horvath and Werfel as the basis for operas. Now it is Goehte's turn — Goethe with one of his most enigmatic, mysterious works which reads as if it were written by Hofmannsthal.

The work concerned is the extremely symbolic tale in the sixth book of *Unterhaltungen deutscher Ausgewanderten* (Conversations of German emigrants). Men and nature are presented here in the greatest variety and are literally transformed from chaotic confusion into the ideal state of classical order.

There are just as many opinions as there have been investigations of what this tale means. Goethe himself refrained from analysing it. He wrote laconically to Schiller, "Fairy-tales are à l'ordre du jour." So one should not try to fathom this work; one should simply accept it for what it is.

And this is just what the composer has done. As always, Klebe is his own librettist. With extravagant, apparently unrestricted imagination Goethe makes one situation follow another amd similarly in the opera one scene flows into the next.

Klebe has taken the poet at his word. He was able to do this because in this story Goethe uses a good deal of direct speech. The dialogue has been taken over virtually unchanged with just a few cuts. Where it was necessary to convert repor*ted speech into dialogue, Klebe has been* so skilful that there is no apparent contrast between Goethe's actual words and the adapted sections.

"Fairy-tales are à l'ordre du jour" — the composer obviously shared this view. It seems that he is pursuing the exact opposite path to Henze. Up to now his work has been characterised by increasing humanist, political commitment, but he has now entered the world of pure artificiality, of deliberate and highly stylised individuality.

This change is manifested not only in the choice of material but in the musical fabric of the work as well. The endeavour to create uninterrpted melodious beauty, a kind of neo-Romantic expressiveness, has never been so obvious as in Klebe's latest opera.

The work is reminiscent both of Berg and of Stravinsky. Here too there are series of notes and serial elaborations, but to a greater extent than hitherto the composer takes the liberty of diminishing the impact of the themes he has developed and playing freely with them. Klebe has said that his primary aim was "pregnant, melodically harmonic invention."



A scene from Klebe's operatic adaptation of Goethe's 'Das Märchen von der schönen Lilie'
(Photo: Joachim Schmidt)

With the most economical and precisely controlled means, the composer has realised this aim. Klebe, who has always tried to reject as much unnecessary musical ballast as possible, has now taken the decisive step and written a chamber opera.

The instrumentation is sparse. There are no strings and the brass instruments feature largely as soloists. Lengthy recitative passages are accompanied by two pianos or a harp. The music flows smoothly from one flourish to the next, the shorter themes combine into a constant stream which swells and subsides, accompanying and guiding the vocal passages.

However lyrical and introspective the music may seem, however much it seems to be an end in itself, it is always dramatic and closely related to the next.

This was brought out in performance and was largely due to the conductor Hans Zender who, with *Süddeutscher Rundfunk* orchestra, did not try to force anything or create elaborate effects. Through reserved rhythmic direction and cautious dynamic embellishments, he enlivened the gentle quality of the music and remained faithful to the melodic colour of the score.

He always tried to achieve the right balance with the voices on stage — voices which were always clearly audible and at the same time full of expression. Raili Mathes, Rachel Yakar and in particular Judith Beckmann, Peter-Christoph Runge, Werner Götz and in particular Leif Roar led the ensemble with great credit to the *Deutsche Oper* am Rhein which gave this performance for the Schwetzingen Festival.

It seems scarcely possible that the scenes imagined by Goethe and the locations demanded by Klebe's opera could be put on the stage. The imaginary situations go beyond the normal demands made of set-designers.

Heinrich Wendel solved this problem through deliberate stylisation. The rococo stage was given immense depth which was occasionally increased by coloured film projected onto the backcloth. Some of the lighting is provided by the whitish-grey set itself. The opera is performed against a glass background which often lights up.

The flaps too, which could be folded and unfolded like wings, are transparent and rays of light filter trough them. Wendel's ingenious ideas had a decisive influence on the production. In fact, the producer did not have much more to do.

Oscar Fritz Schuh was able to limit himself to arranging the exits and entrances, directing the sparse movements and gestures which needed to be subdued at all times.

Schwetzingen is an aristicratic festival. Giselher Klebe's new opera was well received by the small, elite festival audience and the composer was heartily appluaded. But one wonders anxiously whether this fairy-tale opera will find a place in ordinary operatic repertoires. It is unlikely that the widespread success of *Jakubowsky* will be repeated. Strauss' ironic comment, "Its's easiest to go to sleep to the accompaniment of sweet music," could become bitter reality in view of the introverted, classical mood and fragile brittleness of this work. It is probable that fairy-tales of this sort are not exactly à l'ordre du jour.

*Peter Dannenberg*
(DIE WELT, 17 May 1969)

# Mozart Festival at Würzburg

The 38th Mozart Festival in Würzburg will be held from 14 to 28 June. At the beginning and end of the festival open-air concerts will be performed in the garden of the Royal Residence, whilst the symphony concerts will take place in the Bishop's Palace.

The main concert will be performed by the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra conducted by Eugen Jochum. The Bamberg Symphony Orchestra will be conducted on this occasion by Istvan Kertesz. The Koeckert Quartet will contribute two evenings of chamber music and the Würzburg conservatoire will give one concert.

Famous soloists have been engaged for the festival. The gala opera performance will be of *Die Entführung aus dem Serail.*

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 19 May 1969)



# Authors publishing authors present first spring catalogue

*Verlag der Autoren*, a newly-founded publishing house, has just issued its first catalogue. Karlheinz Braun, former director of *Suhrkamp-Verlag's* drama section and Wolfgang Wiens who used to be a producer at the Frankfurt *Theater am Turm* are both representatives of the new firm.

The catalogue has been quickly prepared and the publishers can already claim 33 authors as members because they only deal with plays. They provide texts for the stage, radio and television and hence the complicated and expensive planning involved in book publishing does not arise.

One or two well-known names confirm what seemed likely when the idea of establishing a new publishing house in Frankfurt was first mooted: for the time being *Verlag der Autoren* is a breakway group from *Suhrkamp.* It remains to be seen how the firm develops from this basis.

Peter Handke is contributing his new *Hörspiel 2;* Marguerite Duras has written another triangular love-story *Detruire, dit-elle* which Walter Boehlich, a former Suhrkamp reader, is going to translate. Armand Gatti, who writes particularly vehement political dramas, is joining the firm with no less than three new plays.

Heiner Müller from East Berlin is proffering *Horatier* via *Verlag der Autoren* Jochen Ziem, Konrad Wünsche, Martin Sperr and Gerhard Reinshagen are still poring over their typewriters or chewing their pencils, but they have all said they are working on new plays. And Heinrich Böll has promised a translation and said in a letter to the publishers: "...above all I hope that this new kind of publishing house is a success in spite of any capitalist machinations."

The main distinguishing feature of *Verlag der Autoren* is that the firm is the property of its member authors and they determine policy. Instead of a publisher, there are two representatives (Karlheinz Braun and Wolfgang Wiens) who are elected for a three-year period and manage the affairs of the firm; they are committed to holding full and frank discussions with authors.

Apart from royalties for authors and salaries for the representatives and employees, there is also a profit-sharing scheme (provided that the firm does make a profit, as is hoped) which works as follows: "On average all authors and the representatives will receive the same amount, and on average employees will receive a third of this sum." Thus the profit-sharing system takes into account "the number of members represented in each group." Braun and Wiens comment that the idea is to create a socialist publishing house.

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 21 May 1969)

## THINGS SEEN

# Museum honours industrial organisation

### DEMAG'S 150th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATED WITH ART

Birthday presents can be made in many ways, even in the form of an art exhibition. The Wilhelm Lehmbruch Museum commemorated the 150th anniversary of the foundation of Demag with an exhibition entitled "Industry and Technology in German Painting."

Two reasons explain why a museum should honour an industrial concern in this way. Firstly, the Duisburg museum always avails itself of an opportunity to commemorate local events of wide significance, if it is in a position to do so. Secondly, Demag has been an exceptionally loyal patron of the museum, even from the time of post-war development.

Later, Demag financed or contributed towards some of the museum's most notable purchases, including Kokoschka's *Children Playing* (1909), Macke's *Two Sisters* (1911) and the bronze sculpture *The Pedestrian* (1912). Demag also took the initiative in organising the present exhibition.

The company asked the museum if it would like to make a contribution to the anniversary celebrations. The director of the Lembruck Museum, Dr Händler, saw in this a welcome opportunity to organise an event of local and general significance. He also appreciated the offer as an instance of cooperation between an industrial enterprise and an art institution. Dr Siegried Salzmann set about assembling the exhibition.

The task was difficult and exacting. After exhaustive inquiries lasting several months, Dr Salzmann had compiled a list of over one thousand pictures. Eventually, 250 were chosen for the display.

One of the main difficulties was that almost every second picture came from a different donor or a different city. Dr Salzmann himself was astonished at the number of German paintings and drawings in this field.

This is why the museum eventually decided not to include graphic works in the exhibition. Understandably, when it is realised that the list of drawings ran to thousands. Even if a modest selection of drawings with industrial and techological motifs had been made, the museum would not have been able to accommodate them along with the paintings.

Two notable exceptions were made.



Ernst Ludwig Kirchner's 'Chemnitzer Fabriken' dated 1926
(Photo: Katalog)

Included were a series of exceptionally good drawings by Paul Klee and a number of sketches by Adolph Menzel connected with his monumental work *The Rolling Mill.* At the opening ceremony, Dr Salzmann said, "We have endeavoured to show the most interesting sketches beside the painting of this theme which was of great importance in industrial representation in the second half of the nineteenth century." The sketches are a key to the artist's intentions." Unfortunately, the painting itself is to be seen only in reproduction.

Dr Salzmann assembled his exhibition chronologically and in categories. Over long periods of time this amounted to much the same thing. Certain "periods" therefore are recognisable, although this really applies only to the nineteenth century. Indeed, pictures from the last century comprise much of the assembled works.

One section is devoted to landscape subjects from the first half of the nineteenth century. These are genre paintings in the old style, chosen by Dr Salzmann because they feature factories and workshops as successors of castles and ruins from more aristocratic times. Typical of these paintings is that the factories are depicted in a rural setting and are seen from the exterior.

Factory interiors begin to appear in the second half of the century. The great names in this section are Max Liebermann and Adolph von Menzel, representing within this frame the first years of the German empire.

"Painted Photography" is seen here beside naive reportage. Also the categories "Events and Discoveries" and "Contemporary Themes from the First Years of the Empire until the First World War."

Various events are commemorated. The casting of the *Bavaria* is shown in several versions. Also the first electronic street illuminations in Berlin and the opening of the Nuremberg-Fürth railway in 1835.

Railway stations and bridges are seen in abundance, dam-making too — all in representational art recalling architectural drawings. These were contributed by the Nuremberg museum.

The often flatulent, euphoric reproduction of technological and industrial processes in the first years of the empire was superceded in the art of the constructivists by a more rational and ideological approach. This trend is represented by El Lissitzky and Moholy-Nagy, but the selection here is skimpy and these artists' pivotal position is never adequately or satisfactorily presented.

Speaking of the problems posed by such an exhibition, Dr Salzmann said, "Most people are guided by the title of a picture. Often the essential feature of a painting is overlooked as a result. A painting consists of colour and form. These convey its message and appeal."

Applying this statement to the Duisburg exhibition, it is understandable why aspects of social environment are only lightly and occasionally implied, although these in many cases represent the most significant themes in the field of industry and technology. George Grosz is one of the very few artists in Duisburg who approach this subject critically.

Even Otto Dix is represented only as portraitist of factory-owners. In the other Expressionist pictures — many of them very fine indeed — technology and industry appear almost without exception in brief, detached views.

Modern technology in art received most cursory treatment. One of the reasons is that today industry and technology are reproduced not with oils but as vital components that claim to be works of art.

Only a few of these need to be mentioned in explanation. Mobile sculptures, for example, light and movement, automatic devices. Poetry is filtered from science through art objects.

### Only painting

The Duisburg exhibition confines itself to painting. In the modern section therefore it concentrated on a few, exceptionally good examples. Apart from these, too many exhibits of secondary importance were included. Several are not much better than second-rate industrial art.

Despite the presence of Gerhard Richter, Vostall, Krüll — to mention only a few names — this section is the most disjointed, casual and even provincial. In comparison, paintings in which the artist sought to capture the magic of machinery by surrealistic or "magical" means were fascinating. Worthy of mention in this respect are Klapheck, Radziwill, Mac Zimmermann and the painter of machinery, Bruno Goller.

Several intriguing curiosities are features, although they are probably not conceived as such. Arch-Dadaist Kurt Schwitter, for example, is represented as a bad *realistic* painter. Emil Nolde is seen as an impressionist with a French gloss in a seascape.

Christian Rohlfs who specialised in flowers is represented by a portrait of a swordmaker. A painting by Joachim Ringelnatz shows a parachute jump in Berlin Tempelhof.

In many ways therefore this was an assembly of surprise items. It featured many aspects of industrial and technological themes in pictorial art and the list of famous names is impressive. Criticism can only be levelled at the criteria according to which the exhibits were chosen.

*Klaus U. Reinke*
(Handelsblatt, 20 May 1969)

# New Miró ballet to be premiered at Munich Games

Joan Miró has offered his ballet *L'oeil oiseau* to the Bavarian Opera for its first performance. The well-known Spanish painter wrote the script as well as designing the sets and costumes. Joseph Lazzini a former ballet master of the Marseilles opera house has done the choreography.

If the ballet in which Hamburg, London and New York are interested is accepted, it will be performed during the Olympic Games in 1972 in Munich after a preview of the ballet in Nice where Miro now lives.

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 16 May 1969)

# Michael Ostwald paints the picture of all pictures in Berlin

After one year's work and almost a million strokes of the brush, the "largest picture in the world" is completed. Since June 1968, the 42-year-old West Berlin painter and graphic artist Michael Ostwald has laboured on the 220-feet-long and 36-feet-wide painting *Suffering Man*, symbolising destitution and suppression in the world. It is to be mounted on the long facade of the Europa Center in West Berlin.

The painting breaks all conventional pictorial dimensions. It weighs two tons and is constructed of oil-cloth.

The painting shows a human being emaciated to skeletal proportions. "It is a picture that concerns everyone," Ostwald said. "it is not only symbolic for Biafra and Vietnam, but also for concentration camps, India, the postwar years and the blitz. It should be a warning to the whole world. Only with super-dimensions can humanity be approached in this age of so many stimulants."

Work on the picture was made extremely difficult by its enormous size. Ostwald painted in one of the exhibition pavilions under the Radio Tower. All other studios would have been too small.

"One foot of the *Suffering Man* is longer than the facade of Berlin's largest department store. When I stood in one of the 9-feet high eyes I was sometimes afraid of losing the over-all perspective," said the artist.

A special tubular frame was made by engineers to mount the work. About 100 workers and engineers will erect the picture on the evening of 14 June.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 17 May 1969)



## EDUCATION

# Acceptance of comprehensive schools idea gains ground

For years every education minister who attaches any importante to the epithet "progressive" has bonre in mind the idea of comprehensive scholls and has not lost any opportunity to devote a few encouraging words to this subject.

But those education ministers who still consider the description "conservative" a compliment and not verbal injury do not ignore the plans for comprehensive schools, though only so that they can resist any initatives in this direction in good time.

In the Federal Republic the idea of comprehensive schools is still a bone of contention. The main innovation would be the elimination of the existing three-stage school system in favour of a course system which would be open to all pupils. Opinions on this idea fall into two extreme categories.

West Berlin's schools' Senator Ewers (Social Democratic Party — SPD) is an exponent of one viewpoint; his attitude

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can be summed up as follows, "Anyone who is against the comprehensive system is a reactionary."

The opposite view is represented by Bavarian Education Minister Huber (Christian Social Union — CSU), who evidently thinks that comprehensive schools are the beginning of intellectual expropriation. However, it seems that the opponents of comprehensive schools are increasingly losing ground.

In other comparable industrial nations valuable and and detailed experience of this type of school has been gathered over many years. A clear indication that the opponents are fighting a losing battle is a report published recently by the Education Commission of the Federal Republic Education Council entitled "The Establishment of Experimental Comprehensive Schools."

In this report the commission suggests that forty comprehensive schools should be set up in towns of various sizes and in rural areas. This is the first time that support for the comprehensive system has come from an official educational body, which was asked by the government and the Federal states to prepare an education plan, and whose members cannot be accused of being immoderately progressive.

In fact, the chairman of the DEducation Council, Professor Karl Dietrich Erdmann, and his debuty, the political scientist Hans Maier, are regarded as conservatives. The fact that the sub-committee, which worked out the recommendations under the chairmanship of Hellmuth Beeker, director of the Educational Research Institute in West Berlin, nevertheless succeeded in convincing them of social advantages of the experimental school programme was the result of discussions which lasted more than a year.

During the discussions one of the most telling arguments for the supporters of comprehensive education proved to be the commitment to equality of opportunity established in Basic Law — a requirement which even conservatives could no longer ignore with a clear conscience.

The report states: "The early selection of the present school system means that even when public relations campaigns succeed in interesting parents and children from the lower social classes in secondary education, many of these pupils fail to live up to the requirements of the present system. Presuambly the reason for this failure is in many cases inadequate psychological and educational preparation for secondary education and the fact that the structure, syllabuses and requirements of traditional secondary schools are one-sidedly orientated towards the abilities of middle- and upper-class children."

One of the main objections to comprehensive education is expressed in the slogan, "mass-produced education." This is because all pupils from the 5th to 10th classes (that is ten- to fifteen-year-olds) go to the same school. In each subject the individual pupil attends the course most suited to his abilities and no specific time limit is fixed for specialisation or concluding this educational stage.

No selection, but individual encouragement is the slogan of integrated comprehensive education, and the idea behind the system is early "intellectual orientation for everyone."

On the other hand, opponents of comprehensive schools claim that pupils who are especially capable of productive, intellectual thought will not be given encouragement early enough. Hellmuth Becker regards this as "the fear of losing an elite" and is wont to quote in this context a "really elitist intellectual," namely Robert Oppenheimer who said: "We have larger elites because we introduce selection later, and hence have a broader basis." In America comprehensive education applies right through to eighteen.

In the Federal Republic a few schools are experimenting with comprehensive education; there are three comprehensive schools in West Berlin and one each in Hamburg and Frankfurt. The Education Commission does not consider that many more schools justify the description "comprehensive".

Because there are only a few of those schools and the experiments have only been in progress for a short time, this country's prototype comprehensives can not be evaluated as evidence in favour of the comprehensive system.

### International comparisons

The reformers arguments for the experimental programme are therefore based on international comparisons. Comprehensive schools exist in Sweden, Norway and in Britain (as part of the state system).

The most impressive indication that comprehensive schools considerably assist equality of opportunity is the number of working-class children in these countries who take their school-leaving examinations. Whereas in the Federal Republic only six per cent of working-class pupils take school-leaving examinations, in Britain and Sweden the percentages are 24 and 30 respetively.

In Norway the percentage is only slightly lower. Even in France where the education system involves a mixture of traditional and comprehensive schools, tough with definite elitist trends, twice as many working-class children take the school-leaving examinations, compared with this country.

Another convincing argument during the Education Council's deliberations was the Swedish experiment which preceded the introduction of comprehensive schools. Swedish educational reformers divided Stockholm into two areas and introduced comprehensive schools in the north, while the conventional type of school was retained in the South.

Comparisons proved that the best pupils at the comprehensive schools did not do worse than at the ordinary type of school. But the less gifted pupils at the comprehensive schools gained considerably better results.

The recommendations on the experimental introduction of comprehensive schools are the most detailed proposals yet put forward by the Education Council. The members of the sub-committee were willing to forgo brevity even though the detail of their report might have had a deterrent effect.

They were determined to present their ideas in detail because the concept of a socially open school in which pupils are orientated towards the economy at an early stage cannot be realised if it is misunderstood as a mere organisational structure.

The main consequences of a comprehensive system, which are fully described in the report, would be timetable alterations and changes in the curriculum; pupils are to receive the promised, varied possibilities which would prepare them better for adult life.

At the end of the intermediate stage cosinderable specialisation would be possible. Only a few subjects would be compulsory (German, maths, politics, one foreign language, one science subject and sport), otherwise pupils would choose from the various courses offered, some of which would be orientated towards jobs. In the senior classes all courses would be optional. The spectrum would range from classes aimed at specific university studies to subjects which would prepare pupils for early entry into the professions.

The Education Council estimates that establishing and maintaining a comprehensive school would cost from ten to fifteen per cent more than supporting an ordinary school. But the success of the experimental programme will depend more on money than on the teachers who will develop the system.

How far they are prepared to cooperate will depend on whether they regard the report as yet another ministerial statement, which can be ignored, or whether they are willing to back up the reformers' intentions.

Education ministers are evidently willing to cooperate. Thirty definite plans for setting up comprehensive schools have already been presented. Most of the experiments will take place in states governed by the SPD. The only state which has refused to cooperate at all is Bavaria. But even without Munich's approval, the reformers hope that the comprehensive system will usher in a new educational era.

*Nina Grunenberg*
(DIE ZEIT, 16 May 1969)





## MEDICINE

# Colour X-rays facilitate diagnoses

## RADIOGRAPHY SOCIETY MEETS IN STUTTGART

In future doctors will be able to gain important diagnostic information from coloured X-rays, which can be produced according to a new principle developed by Heidelberg scientists. In particular the X-rays obtained by this method will make it possible to differentiate the blood vessels containing venous and arterial blood.

At the 50th congress of the Federal Republic Radiography Society in Stuttgart the Heidelberg researcher Dr Franz-Josef Roth explained, with the aid of a coloured film, the technical principle behind the production of these unusual angiograms, which are nowadays so important for investigating the circulation.

These angiograms enable the doctor to see whether the circulation of an organ — for example, the kidneys, the liver, brain or even the coronary vessels — is functioning adequately or not. And he can discover the points at which a blood clot or a contracted artery is inhibiting the blood flow.

Similarly, in cases of circulatory disturbances of the extremities, an angiogram can help to detect the blockage and by operating the obstruction can either be removed or the supply of blood can be ensured by a plastic vessel.

The prerequisite for obtaining these conventional angiograms, which are usually photographed in a continuous series, is that the blood-stream must be injected with an X-ray contrast substance, which produces shadows.

This is because only the shadow of the complicated network of blood vessels shows up on an X-ray, which in this instance is not a genuine photograph but merely a silhouette, and hence does not indicate whether a vessel contains pale red arterial or dark red venous blood.

The new method means that three different pictures are taken of the area of the body, which is to be examined. The first photograph only records the overall situation; the circulation through the

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blood vessels is not made specially visible by injecting a contrast substance.

For the second X-ray, which is taken immediately after the first and covers the same area, a substance which produces shadow is injected into the main artery of the section of the body being examined. This means that the network of arteries shows up clearly on the X-ray. Finally, the procedure is repeated after the venous system has been injected with a contrast liquid.

By means of an electronic procedure, the two contrast pictures are optically abstracted from the first picture and the arterial and venous X-rays are eventually superimposed. This superimposed picture reveals exactly where and to what extent the oxygen-charged arterial blood reaches the tissue and is then transformed into the Heidelberg researcher Dr Franz-Josef Roth explained, with the aid of a colour film,

In this way the doctor is able not only to detect hindrances to the blood flow easily, at first glance so to speak, but he can also see, for example, whether a dangerous growth is developing in the tissue, which has a different circulatory pattern to normal tissue; or whether there are are any "short-cuts" in the circulation through which the oxygen-charged arterial blood reaches the veins directly, before it has had a chance to deliver its oxygen to the tissue which needs it to survive.

Professor Kurt Decker of the Munich University Neurological Clinic said in Stuttgart that this new method had proved particularly successful in diagnosing obstructions in the cerebral blood-stream.

(DIE WELT, 20 May 1969)

# Futurological conference

From 10 to 15 November 1969 this country's first important, international symposium on future developments will be held in Munich under the title "System 69," attended by foreign scientists. Problems of communications, chemistry, space travel, town-planning, traffic and marine research will be discussed.

The Society for Future Developments in cooperation with West Berlin Centre for Futurological Research and the study group "Man and Space." have organised the conference. The conference will be chaired by Professor Karl Steinbruch of Karlsruhe University.

This year the symposium will primarily deal with the economic aspect of future developments and the discussions will be held on an inter-disciplinary basis. It will be complemented by an exhibition featuring the topics discussed.

Apart from the exchange of scientific information, the important purpose of the symposium will be to interest experts in future problems which will vitally affect the ordinary man-in-the-street.

(Handelsblatt, 16 May 1969)

# Child's height influences a child's later abilities

Modern medical science can estimate to within two centimetres the eventual height and stature of a child while he or she is still growing. This means that when the child is only twelve or thirteen years old it is possible to say what kind of job is likely to be suitable for the individual concerned.

This claim was made by Professor J. Rutenfranz (Max Planck Institute for Occupational Physiology, Dortmund) at a course for industrial doctors in Munich. The professor says, "The height of a growing child usually influences his capabilities."

During the last few years a series of observations have shown that while intellectual ability depends on the pulse frequency, i.e. on the circulation, physical ability depends on the child's height. This inter-relationship was particularly marked with thirteen- to fourteen-year-old boys and generally disappeared at the end of puberty.

This was particularly noticeable as far as sporting achievements were concerned: a thirteen-year-old boy who was 1.34 metres tall managed a 3.15-metre long-jump, but a boy of the same age who was 1.76 metres tall jumped 3.85 metres. Rutenfranz comments, "Including sporting achievements on school reports must necessarily involve grave injustices."

With girls the interdependence of physical size and achievements was not so marked. This is because after a girl has reached the age of fifteen her muscle power does not develop any further; a boy does not reach the height of his physical powers until he is eighteen.

In addition, intensive physical training affects the organs of the body. An investi-

Frankfurter Neue Presse

gation in Sweden showed that a weekly training programme of between 6,500 and 65,000 metres for twelve- to seventeen-year-old girl swimmers altered the heart activity. After the end of the training, the heart functioning returned to normal. Rutenfranz deducts that "physical training does not have a lasting, but only a temporary affect."

Professor Rutenfranz thinks that the relationship between size and achievement is particularly important when choosing a career. Large industrial firms have already started assessing apprentices' capabilities before they start work.

This is achieved with the greatest degree of accuracy by subjecting the children to several examinations which involve height measurement and observing secondary sexual characteristics. By X-raying a child's hand joints it is also possible to establish early on whether the child would be suited to heavy work later.

This could be very significant, because at the moment career advisers, doctors and parents often make the wrong decisions. Rutenfranz gave an example of this situation.

The relay-runners who represented this country at the Olympic Games were — tradesmen, people who do not have to undertake heavy work in their professional lives. It would appear that at the age of fourteen they chose the wrong career. Rutenfranz said that particularly at this age the difference in physical development can correspond to the difference between an eight-year-old and an eighteen-year-old.

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 20 May 1969)

# Arteriosclerosis greatest killer except cancer

In the Federal Republic more people die every year of arteriosclerosis than of any other disease except cancer. Approximately half of all the workers who have to retire prematurely suffer from this civilisation disease. This involves wage-earners' pension schemes in a sum of 1,000 million Marks annually.

For about 150 years scientists have been trying to discover the cause of arteriosclerosis. The manifestations of the disease include hardening, contraction and loss of elasticity of the arteries. These cause bad circulation, clotting of the arteries and ulceration.

The symptoms of the disease ranging from temporary lameness to lack of coordination indicating that "physical training does not have a lasting, but only a temporary affect," leading to the kidneys being affected — to psychic disturbances.

This disease has been explained in many ways. During the course of medical history it has been described as a symptom of old age, as inflammation, calcification and as a symptom of exhaustion. Finally, the influence of cholesterol was discovered and diets were prescribed.

The director of Münster University hospital and polyclinic, Professor Werner Heinrich Hauss, has been investigating arteriosclerosis for years. He has reached the conclusion that it is a metabolic disease.

Through numerous statistical investigations and experiments with animals he has established that when the disease starts a metabolic disturbance in the walls of the blood vessels occurs, which is the pacemaker for the subsequent stages of the disease.

Professor Hauss says that it was necessary to give the experimental animals a "shock" in order to produce arteriosclerosis. This is why he describes the disease as "reactive." In his opinion, the kind of shock involved is of secondary importance. "The virtually neurotic fear of getting fat, smoking or drinking is neither necessary nor sufficient to produce this desease. It is not eating ham sandwiches which does the damage, but the intake of too many calories."

But above all the professor thinks that other living conditions have a decisive influence. In his view changing jobs, restlessness, lack of professional success, overwork, tense emotions, any kind of anger or excitement, the first and last day of a holiday and retirement can cause arteriosclerosis.

To prevent the occurrence of the disease, he recommends a balanced rhythm between day and night, work and leisure and sensible diet. Intensive physical training can make the cells more resistant to "shock". But the best prevention for arteriosclerosis is "a satisfied mind and a happy heart."

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 20 May 1969)

## ■ AGRICULTURE

# Farming policy regeneration begins

Truth is a terrible medicine. One prefers to remain ill rather than take it," wrote August von Kotzebue in *Lohn der Wahrheit*. This can be said of most people, but especially of the farmers who are struggling against taking the bitter medicine of realistic agricultural policy.

The farmers realise that something must be done, that many changes are necessary. The majority choose, however, to avoid the real issues and like the seven brave Swabians *invite the others to take* the first step forward.

Since 1950, two million workers, about half of the number of people employed in agriculture, have left the farms and sought alternative employment in trade and industry. In the same period more than 510,000 farm enterprises were abandoned, about a quarter of the total number. Although many are doggedly opposing the agricultural process of contraction to healthy proportions, this process has already begun.

For many years, the farmers managed to sustain their earnings by increasing productivity. In an expanding market this was the natural thing to do.

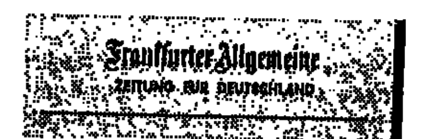
Market conditions have changed since then, however, much to the disadvantage of the farmer. For most farmers the market is a vital factor in their livelihoods. If the farmer ignores the market trend, he will soon find himself in a dead end from which there is no exit.

Those who try to compensate for constant or regressive prices by increasing productivity sharpen the edge of competition. Neither the market nor the government can dispose of surpluses when no one wants them. Unsuccessful experimenting with government intervention cost many millions, but it did not solve the problem.

How about quota restrictions on production? Many recommendations in this directions have been discussed in recent months.

Such restrictions would undoubtedly prevent surplus production, but in the last resort they would only aggravate a situation that is already most involved. As long as "border enterprises" are obliged – by reasons of size or situation – to draw their income solely from farming they will not cease in their efforts to produce as much cereals and as much milk as possible, however meagre their profits may be.

Such enterprises can only be helped




when an additional souce of income is opened to them outside farming, or when they abandon farming entirely. Abandonment of private farms or their integration into a semi-industrial scheme gives others the opportunity to earn a decent living solely from the proceeds of farm produce.

This transition will be more feasible when the various possibilities of cooperative production are exploited. A stigma still attaches to such communal efforts, and this must first be overcome.

The future will tell whether cooperation, on whatever level, will be permanent, or whether it will open the way to the formation of large farm enterprises under independent management. At present, cooperation is leading to widespread concentration of resources without taxing the financial reserves of the individual. Contractual ties between farm enterprises and industrial processing plant will certainly widen the farmer's range of opportunity for development.

Much has been written about agriculture's role in industrialised areas, and also about the general exodus of farm workers into the main industrial centres. This is to ignore, however, the real rural problematic zones.

In these regious it is not farm workers who are faced by the prospect of seeking another livelihood but the independent farmers themselves. It is essential that new industries should be established in these parts to give these farmers the opportunity to boost their income from other sources, or to sell their farms and seek other employment. This is why agricultural policy of the future must be an essential facet of general economic and transport policy.

*The principal problem* in the way of a sensible solution to agricultural questions, however, stems from social considerations. As long as the farmer has the feeling that giving up his farm or taking alternative employment elsewhere amounts more or less to a decline in his social stature, whatever recommendations are made locally or in government circles will fall on deaf ears.

In a sense it is astonishing that the social status of the independent farmer is still so high in the popular view, although in last year's agricultural report no one objected to taking the low income levels as criteria for an assessment of the agricultural situation. This was even put forward as an indication of the disparty between agricultural and industrial living standards.

The best time to set the points for the future of organised farm management is when one generation takes over from another and when the children are at the age to choose their careers. Minister of Agriculture Hermann Höcherl suggested recently that every farmer should first complete a training course in the industrial field. He was thinking of the time when a young farmer may decide after it to abandon farming or take a part-time job in industry.

Farms maintained as an additional source of income should not be regarded as miniature farm enterprises in the usual tradition. Special forms of organisation and management must be found for such sideline farms, allowing their owners sufficient time to pursue their occupation in industry.

What really must be avoided is that the wife of the part-time farmer is left with the brunt of the work becouse her husband has no time himself. This is one of the reasons such sideline enterprises have fallen into disrepute in many regions. It fell to the women to keep then going, and of course the women objected.

If such enterprises are not to be identified in future with social decline, the role of the women in their maintenance cannot be ignored. Much will depend on working hours in industry. Everything possible must be done to arrange the best hours for workers maintaining small farms at home. Discontent will be general if nothing is done to help these people out of a difficult situation.

What Dr Hamm-Brücher, Under-Secretary in the Hesse Ministry of Cultural Affairs once said is more than ever applicable: "In the long term, the rural standard of living can be raised not with subsidies but with educational grants. This is the only way to improve the farmer's income and his prospects of a brighter future."

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 15 May 1969)

# Gap between produce prices and farmers' income must be watched

Dr Fritz Neef, State Secretary in the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, drew attention to three major factors in agricultural policy, while speaking to the Hesse Economic Forum at Kassel. He advanced the view that whereas the Federal government's price policy for farm produce has been largely adopted in the Common Market, responsibility for the farmer's income is borne by each country.

The Mansholt Plan was rejected by Dr Neef. He said this country's alternative proposals are contained in the Federal government's agricultural programme and in the proposals of the Ministry of Economic Affairs on regional improvement schemes. These are the salient points of Dr Neef's speech.

"In all developed economies agricultural policy must cope with three unalterable factors:

1) The application of technological progress leads to an increase in the range of agricultural products. This has a depressing effect on prices.

2) Demand for farm produce increases in proportion to the wage trend.

3) People employed in agriculture compare their expectations to wage trends in non-agricultural fields.

These factors lead to the decisive conclusion that the earnings of agricultural workers must be increased. Steps should be taken to ensure that no economic sector or social group is deprived of the accomplishments of a prosperous society and of the benefits of economic growth.

Otherwise, new class barriers will be erected and social tensions will be created. Preventing this is one of the major objectives of social policy.

The Federal government's recommendations are set forth in the agricultural programme. This is not a plan, it is a declaration of approved government policy reflected in the proposals of the Ministry of Economic Affairs regarding the intensification and coordination of regional improvement projects.

Higher income, the highest possible social status for people employed in agriculture, supplies of farm produce at reasonable prices and the maintenance of a certain volume of agricultural imports from third countries – these objectives can be realised only if compromises are made.

For rural communities this means finding new forms of management and administration, facilitating rational employment of productive factors such as land, labour and capital. The farmers' market position must also be strengthened and the efficiency of marketing methods improved.

Generally speaking, agricultural markets must be stabilised. The development of agricultural regions and the strengthening of the economic potential of these regions are an essential prerequisite for coordinated exodus of workers *from* agriculture in the wake of an expanding economy.

Transport facilities, power supply and schools must be introduced to rural areas to make them more attractive to the inhabitants and to outsiders willing to invest in these parts and create employment. The mobility of the productive factors, especially land and labour, could then be improved.

"Mobility" applied to land need not mean the sale of land. Whatever measures are taken, it is important that improvement schemes do not cause excessive hardship to the community or create bitterness where cooperation is most needed.

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 20 May 1969)

# Farmland sales to be eased

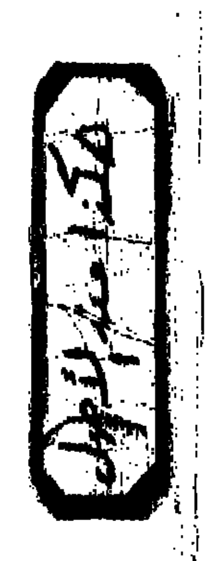
Minister of Agriculture Hermann Höcherl intends to facilitate the sale of arable land to non-farmers. The Federal states have requested him to make appropriate recommendations to the authorities responsible for the sale of property.

These state authorities are to act in accordance with liberal High Court procedure in the interpretation of the laws governing the sale of real estate. In principle, non-farmers are to be enabled to buy landed property when comparable bids from farmers are not made.

Within the scope of the government's agricultural programme the Minister of Agriculture hopes to ease the flow of capital into rural areas, thus improving communications with these areas. A non-farmer is to be prevented from negotiating the sale of a site if the price offered is in crass disproportion to the actual value of the property.

The sale of property to non-farmers will only be possible when the transaction is beneficial to the community. A sale is considered beneficial, for example, when it promises to promote tourism, attract industrial enterprises into rural areas and promote plans to improve town planning in the regions in question.

(Hamburger Abendblatt, 20 May 1969)





## ■ COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

# Metallgesellschaft makes money and money

### CONSIDERABLE MODERNISATION PLANS

Every day new products are coming on the market. We notice them in industry, in housing and almost certainly every time we dip into our pockets.

Metallgesellschaft (MG) in Frankfurt also has a word to say when money is at stake, especially as it makes money in the literal sense. MG (or, as some say, *wir machen auch Geld* we also make money) makes the small dies which are used in the minting of copper, nickel, silver and gold coins.

Vereinigte Deutsche Metallwerke (VDM), a subsidiary of MG, also helps to mint coins for circulation. The VDM has sixteen plants in all and employs 14,000 workers. It is the largest – but only one of many – MG subsidiaries.

MG is now 88 years old. It was founded on 17 May 1881 by Wilhelm Merton, a Frankfurter who was born in Britain. To mark the occasion, MG invited economic journalists to visit its plants on the Rhine and Ruhr and acquaint themselves with the latest developments.

MG's annual turnover is now estimated at 4,000 million Marks. This puts it in twentieth place in the country's list of largest enterprises.

Production in the company's metallurgical plant and subsidiaries amounts annually to about 600,000 tons of metal. This is roughly half of the nation'soutput of non-ferrous metals and one sixth of EEC production.

MG foundry capacity in 1968 was 255,000 tons in the case of copper, representing 34 per cent of national consumption; 156,000 tons of lead – about 48 per of consumption; and 170,000 tons of zinc – 45 per sent of present consumption, estimated at 378,000 tons.

In its early years, Metallgesellschaft traded exclusively in ores and non-ferrous metals. It held a dominant position in the international ore trade until the First World War. Its interests soon extended beyond mere trading in ore to mining ore and smelting operations. This was the beginning of a new era for the MG.

Thousands of tons of ore were shipped to the company in Germany from all parts of the world, and it was not surprising that the MG turned its thoughts to the shipment of bulk goods. The Unterweser shipping company is now a full subsidiary of MG. Eight freighters, including to new 43,000-ton vessels, sail under its flag.

MG has thus succeeded in insuring itself against occasionally severe fluctuations in international freight rates. Another company affiliate, Lehnkering in Duisburg, maintains a fleet of heavy barges on the Rhine.

These supply Rhineside plant with imported raw material. They are also hired by chemical companies for special runs to the coast and back.

Metallgesellschaft employs more than 32,000 people, including the affiliates in which it has a majority holding. Despite the MG's manifold interests in the chemical industry, in mining and mechanical engineering (the Lurgi group, for example), it is still centered largely around metal production and refinement.

In Datteln MG set up this country's first metal electrolysis plant with an annual output of 100,000 tons. Here zinc of the finest quality is produced.

Not far from this Ruhr-Zink plant, the Rheinisches Zinkwalzwerk plans to go into production in the near future. This will be the world's largest and most modern zinc rolling mill.

Another complex is the Berzelius Metallhütten. Modern production methods, facilitating the refinement of lead-zinc alloys, opened the way to annual production of 70,000 tons of zinc and 40,000 tons of lead.

Compared to world production of steel, now in the region of 500 million tons, consumption of non-ferrous metals, especially aluminium, copper, lead, zinc, tin and nickel, is relatively low at 25 million tons. Nevertheless, the growth rates in these sectors too are considerable.

In this country, aluminium consumption over the last ten years increased by 160 per cent. Consumption of lead climbed 56 per cent, of zinc 52 and of copper 42 per cent.

Since the Federal Republic possesses little raw material reserves, most of its requirements must be imported. This gives special significance to MG's plans to step up direct investments in overseas mining operations.

Over the next five years, Metallgesellschaft plans to invest 750 million Marks in new assets, in modernisation of existing plant and in the construction of a new aluminium factory in Borbeck near Essen with an initial annual capacity of 84,000 tons. MG director Karl Gustaf Ratjen said that the company's "defined objectives" are the restructuring of the original holding company into an integrated concern "with no other alternative but to economise." This holds the promise of future mergers.

"Dynamic integration" into a customer-consumer complex – in this way MG hopes to improve and consolidate its position in the market. Integration in the reverse direction, towards the sources of supply, is to ensure competitive and regular supplies of raw material for the foundries. Without these no large-scale company can hope to survive on the international market.

MG is planning to extend all its plant, but will be unsentimental about closing down unprofitable or low-profit plant.

MG's investment programme, according to Herr Ratjen, includes the acquisition of interests in foreign copper mines. This would be done through a syndicate and would represent MG's most important investment in recent years.

To ensure regular supplies of raw material for the aluminium plant in Essen, developed jointly with the Swiss Alusuisse group, it is also planned to invest in a mining enterprise in Sardinia. This project will cost the company 350 million Marks, according to MG director Dr Walther Casper. About 600,000 tons of argillaceous earth are to be extracted annually from 1.2 million tons of Australian bauxite.

The bauxite will be shipped from Australia in a fleet of three to four new 92,000-ton freighters. MG will contribute thirty per cent of the cost.

Two-thirds of the investments amounting to 750 million Marks is to be financed from depreciation concessions.

(Telegraf, 18 May 1969)

# Shipyards are hard pressed by talk of revaluation

The shipyards which entered this year with commissioned tonnage of 4.1 million BRTs valued at 5,400 million Marks now have a total of 4.5 million BRTs in their order books, according to the president of the shipbuilders' association, Dr Paul Voltz, speaking at the association's annual meeting.

Orders last year amounted to 2.4 million BRTs, representing about nine per cent of world production in the shipping sector. This country's shipyards failed to secure a greater slice of present demand because of the currency hazards of long-term transactions.

The present order position, however, guarantees full production until 1971 in most shipyards. Major rival countries are one year ahead, with 1972 output for the most part already commissioned.

Commenting on the currency dispute in recent months, Herr Voltz said that since this country's shipping industry is very dependent on exports the relief was great when it was announced that the Mark would not be revalued after all. It was gratifying to hear that the future of the Federal Republic's competitive potential in export trade was decisive in this decision, he said.

Monetary speculation that has been rampant for the last twenty months has led to a decline in orders, Herr Voltz continued. Everywhere price concessions were demanded, putting a severe strain on the shipyards. This was all the greater since no currency differential exists between the Federal Republic its two main rivals, Sweden and Japan, so there could be no talk of an artificially sustained lead in competition.

Herr Voltz said that the shipyards were saved from grave consequences by quantitative demand on world markets and also by the long-term export credits provided by the Federal government. Demand in the shipping sector, however, is showing no sign of slackening.

The shipbuilders' association called upon the Federal government to continue its credit aid so that present demand can be assimilated. It is important that the market should remain as international as possible.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 19 May 1969)

■ AUTOMOBILES

# Second-hand car king Wilhelm Becker

## ANNUAL SALES TOP 15,000 VEHICLES

CHRIST UND WELT
Deutsche Wochenzeitung

He has a kind of sixth sense," twenty-six-year-old Helmut Becker says of his father. Wilhelm Becker, the man to whom this supernatural gift is attributed, is Europe's second-hand car king.

His kingdom is a five-and-a-half-acre site in Düsseldorf. A 210-foot disused factory chimney with a commanding view over the Becker empire has been converted into a neon-clad advertising minaret.

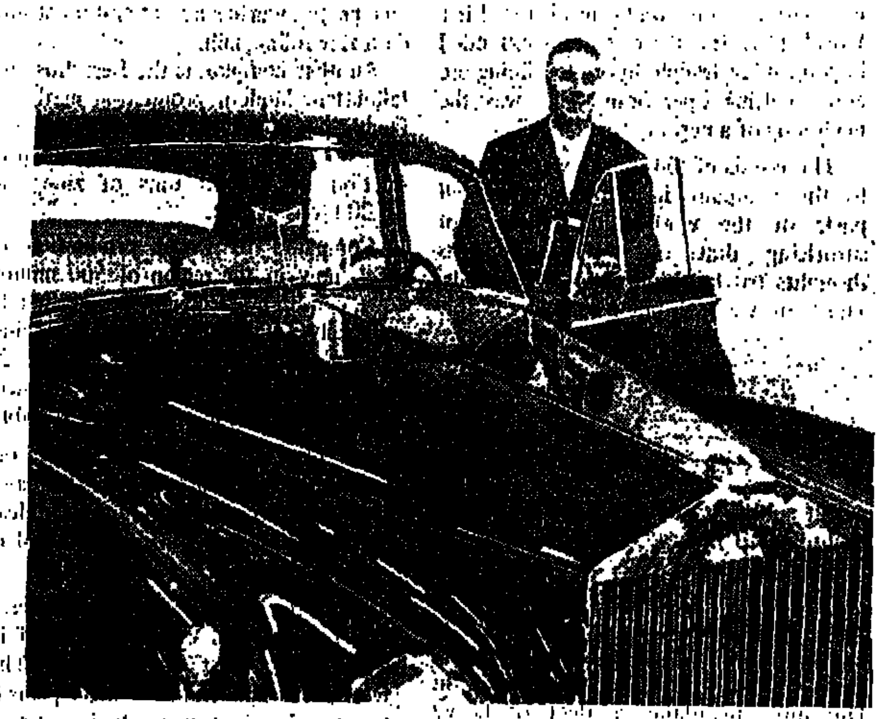
Wilhelm Becker has a retinue of 450 people and can, should the fancy take him, marshal a fleet of 1,200 vehicles ranging from Rolls Royces to bubble cars. His pneumatic-tyred horse power armada is worth ten million Marks.

Born on New Year's Eve in a poor village in the Hunsrück mountains, Becker senior was one of twelve brothers and sisters and although the last Kaiser was his godfather he hardly seemed destined for the top of the tree in his chosen profession. Yet he is now the kingpin of 50,000 used car dealers in the Federal Republic of Germany.

On his return from the war in 1947, a year many will remember for the maize flour in the little bread that was available, Wilhelm Becker set up in business, selling a ten-year-old Wanderer cabriolet with 250,000 miles on the clock. It promptly broke down on the outskirts of the city.

Becker, a keen athlete in his time, discovered that there had been sawdust in the Wanderer's gearbox. Not dismayed, he wrote that one up to experience and is now widely acknowledged to be one of the best-informed men on the used car market.

*Automobil-Revue*, the Swiss motoring magazine, once reckoned that Wilhelm Becker could tell on the spot whether a car offered to him for sale was above board or not. Fresh-air fanatic Becker, who employs a small army of mechanics, allows no more than 100 Marks to be spent on smartening up a car. Every one of his staff knows by heart the boss's maxim: "It is better for a car to fall to bits in the test bed than to fall apart as its *new owner is taking it out for a spin on* the autobahn."



Wilhelm Becker with one of his second-hand Rolls Royces (Photo: dpa)

"No one is sold a pup by me," says Wilhelm Becker, rising up to his full six foot two. "I don't sell junk."

In enormous halls full of shiny chrome Becker's emblem, a hand with the figure 2, reigns supreme. This trade mark is registered in 36 countries. More than twenty salesmen are at hand.

To look at this resplendent array of men and machines you would hardly think that dealing in second-hand cars is classified on a par with the rag-and-bone man in Paragraph 35 of Trade Regulations.

Horse-power missionary Becker has made the second-hand car socially acceptable. Top-flight politicians, artists and captains of industry number among his customers. Elisabeth Flickenschildt and Gustaf Gründgens bought their cars from Auto-Becker. So did Lore Lorentz of Düsseldorf's Kom(m)ödchen cabaret, who coined an advertising jingle for him.

Flower-loving millionaire Becker, a decided opponent of added value tax ("The kiss of death for used cars"), at present has department store magnate Helmut Horten's silver-grey Rolls on his books. He once sold a Rolls to a Stuttgart businessman for 150,000 Marks.

"Rudolf Münemann and his daughter Anja," the grey-haired car king begins, recalling an anecdote about the Munich industrial financier, "noticed a snow-white Ferrari at the Frankfurt motor show. Münemann, a business acquaintance of mine, bought it to give to his daughter on her eighteenth birthday."

Top sales are still seen to by the boss himself. "I am still my own best salesman," he reckons. His sales technique calls "not for pomp but for a reasonable, middle-class atmosphere." Becker is a semi-detached king. His duplex home in the Düsseldorf suburb of Oberkassel has, so he says, one room for each member of the family.

Year by year Becker ("The way the competition copies everything I do riles me no end.") sells 15,000 cars worth eighty million Marks.

*The man* about whom Bernd Looson in his book "How to Make Millions" wrote: "...it comes as something of a surprise to learn that he even has a Christian name, so readily does the general public think in terms of Auto-Becker" has long ceased to sell used cars only. Every other Becker auto is brand new.

Many brand names that conjure up vistas of dream motoring can only be bought from Becker. He is official dealer for MG, Alfa Romeo, Jaguar, Volvo and Renault, Opel main dealer and the largest General Motors dealer, selling Cadillacs, Buicks, Chevrolets, Oldsmobiles and Pontiacs in this country.

Becker is also the sole importer of Ferraris, Iso Rivoltas, Berthones and Ghias. "Being a sole importer," he says, and he should know, "is not always the most profitable line of business."

Separate firms are ready and waiting for each of Becker's three sons, should they show the inclination to follow their father's footsteps. Wilhelm Becker is using the figure 2 in a hand as its trade mark, has been in existence since the Auto-Supermarkt GmbH was set up to market other, often breathtakingly expensive brands.

Weltexport GmbH does a roaring worldwide trade in used cars from this country. The main export areas are the Eastern Bloc, North Africa and the Middle East.

Large-scale exports of used cars represent a good business proposition for Becker and "the safety valve the home market needs to avoid serious pressure in this country." Auto-Becker's only lament is that not enough support is provided by the federal government.

Wilhelm Becker would like his firm to be represented all over the world. The Federal government, he feels, should include second-hand cars among the items listed in trade agreements concluded with other countries. His last customer was a Malaysian importer who contracted to buy 200 Becker autos, every one of them used.

Kaiser Bill's godson walks around his Düsseldorf automobile department store picking up scraps of paper from the ground. "I don't like litter on my property," he comments, heading for his simple office.

On his run-of-the-mill desk there lies a twenty-one-year-old graphological study. Every word of the *reading* of his handwriting made in post-war Munich has come true, Becker reckons. He likes to recall an American woman who bought from Becker when he was still a small firm. "You," she said, "are a business man."

Wilhelm Becker, an early riser, has a simple explanation for his success. "My business is my hobby," he says.

(CHRIST UND WELT, 23 May 1969)

# Millions spent on road improvements

In the twenty years since the Federal Republic was set up public and private expenditure on roads, vehicles and other transport necessities, excluding private cars, has amounted to about 170,000 million Marks.

The road network has been considerably improved at a cost of approximately 80,000 million Marks, including expenditure on 50,000 miles of new roads, 1,200 of which have been autobahn.

This country's road network now consists of roughly 262,500 miles of roads, for the most part in good condition. This total includes 2,500 miles of autobahn and 20,000 miles of trunk roads.

Approximately one million commercial vehicles (as against 350,000 in 1949), twelve million passenger and estate cars (as against 400,000 twenty years ago) and more than 40,000 omnibuses (as against 10,000) are now on the roads.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 17 May 1969)

# Automobile Club advises yellow zebra crossings are the best

Zebra crossings ought to be painted yellow. ADAC, the Federal Republic automobile club, has decided after an experiment in Landshut, Bavaria, for which special permission was granted.

In rain, snow and the dark and when the road surface is past its best yellow zebra stripes have definite advantages over the conventional white. The only drawback is that, according to ADAC, yellow paint is on average fifteen per cent more expensive than white.

After considering all the factors involved, the ADAC road traffic engineers came to conclusions that can only be most strongly recommended to the Federal Transport Ministry.

Yellow should be approved in addition to white as a colour for road markings. White should remain the basic colour and yellow be reserved for special instances, particularly danger points, but zebra crossings should be painted yellow whatever happens.

Other places where ADAC would like to see yellow lines replace the present white include no parking and no stopping zones (yellow lines along the kerb), traffic islands and places where the course of the road is not altogether clear, turning lanes and lines on the road surface to mark a major road ahead.

The Landshut experiment has also shown that most motorists welcome yellow lines. They feel them to be a genuine help rather than regimentation and accordingly pay more attention to them than to road markings in other colours.

According to ADAC this country is alone in permitting white road markings only. In all neighbouring countries yellow is either allowed or even prescribed as a second colour. In Finland as in the United States white is the basic colour and yellow denotes danger. In ADAC's view meaningful standardisation should be the aim.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 28 May 1969)